

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 471

By DeBerry L

A RESOLUTION to recognize the New Tri-State Defender's
"Women of Excellence" honorees.

WHEREAS, throughout the years, women in Memphis, Tennessee have been leaders in the areas of civic responsibility, business endeavors, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, for the past five years, *The New Tri-State Defender*, a Memphis-based newspaper, has honored over two-hundred and fifty outstanding African-American women as part of its "Women of Excellence" annual presentation; and

WHEREAS, the 2013 selection of honorees includes fifty such women, who have achieved success as executives, business owners, community leaders, ministers, non-profit executives, media personalities, physicians, educators and role models in their respective fields; and

WHEREAS, these honorees are Frances Anderson, Tracy Bethea, Gwen Bonner, Cynthia Bowen, Mary Bright, Marilyn Brooks, Peggy Brown, Kerri Campbell, Chermale Casem, Dr. Menthia P. Clark, Gerrie Currie, Cynthia Daniels, Yolanda Draine, Michelle Fifer, Sheila Floyd, Telisa Franklin, Donzaleigh Frazier, Mary Freeman, Janeen Gordon, Rosalyn Gray, Tiffanie Grier, Veora Harris, Cynthia Hazell-Cutchin, T J Jefferson, Catherine Johnson, Kela Jones, Selena Jones, Gail Kerr-Moore, Virzola Law, Dr. Tommie Matthews, Dr. Brenda Partee Morris, Ella Mosby, Carla Norton, Crystal Oliver, Elle Perry, Ayoka Pond, Angel Price, Angela Rixter-Kelley, Cynthia Sharp, Dorothy Jean Smith, Nicky Sparrow, Dorchelle Spence, Sugar Stallings, Pearl Street, Faye Stroud, Tish Towns, Sabrina Ward, Kesha Whitaker, Regenna Williams, and Rosalind Withers; and

WHEREAS, these honorees were chosen from among one hundred nominations, based upon proven success within their profession or industry, and upon their efforts to encourage others while remaining highly active in community service and organizational involvement; and

WHEREAS, the Sixth Annual *New Tri-State Defender's Women of Excellence* awards will be celebrated on April 27, 2013 at the Memphis Botanic Gardens; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of these "Women of Excellence" have greatly impacted the Memphis community and they are worthy of recognition by this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that the Sixth Annual *New Tri-State Defender's Women of Excellence* celebration be recognized for its efforts to shed light on the contributions of Memphis area women whose lives and careers have had a positive impact on others.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the fifty phenomenal women who were chosen as this year's honorees receive the accolades and appreciation deserving of those who have shown commitment and dedication to the highest principles of service and leadership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.